

fulness of the body depends upon each organ performing its function properly and well; likewise the strength and efficiency of that great body, the church, depends upon its members performing their duties properly and well.

2. The strength of any organization depends upon the usefulness of those who compose it. But someone may say, "I cannot do anything," they perhaps become discouraged because they cannot do as much as their brother or sister in Christ. Let us remember this, we all have a work to do and if we shirk this duty we hinder the church in her progress and cripple her for present duties. It may be that we are not able to preach the Word, or sing anthems, or fill any of these higher positions; but we all can do something however humble or menial it may be, to contribute to her power and usefulness.

3. Truly she has done much to promote civilization, but there are new problems confronting her today and we as her members have a part to perform in their solutions. What can we do? We can all practice her teachings. Today as never before there is a demand for the practical. The world looking on the church with a critical eye demands less theory and more practice. The Christian of today is not known by his profession, his creed or his style in dress but by the life he lives, by his relations to his fellowmen and by his transactions in the business world. "Our lives are living epistles known and read of all men."

4. Now let us inquire, what are some of the church's teachings? First we are taught to serve others; there is nothing that brings us so much joy as our service to others. No one can live unto himself alone; there is no absolutely independent life. We are placed in society for reciprocal action to receive and give. How unmindful we are sometimes of this truth! How often we forget others for self!

5. Our Master's life while here on earth, was a life of service. He went about speaking words of consolation and comfort to those in sorrow, healing the sick, casting out unclean spirits, opening the eyes of the blind, unstopping the deaf ear and raising the dead. Then if we would have our lives become powerful, if we would have our Christianity tell for more in the world, let us follow more closely our example, our ideal. Our lives should be that of service. We should get out of our narrow sphere of self and merge into that larger fuller life of usefulness. Our brothers' welfare should become our own, the world's needs should be considered as golden opportunities rather than tasks. Christ said, "I came not to be ministered unto but to minister." May God help us all to have a larger vision of duty and then may we ask his help and spirit to go forth and do. Not only say and theorize.

6. Again, the church teaches love to our fellowmen. If all the business transactions

were carried on in accordance with the principles of the gospel it would revolutionize the business world of today. Instead of employer and employees being at variance, they would become friends. The tendency on the part of the employer to pay as little money as possible and secure the greatest amount of work would be changed to that of good will and kind treatment toward his employees. On the other hand the laborers would look on his master as a friend and not as a stern ruler or boss.

7. I care not what department of business into which you carry the gospel plan, it will eliminate dishonesty, impurity, selfishness and avariciousness and will substitute for these honesty, charity, purity and a just regard for the rights of others. The gospel plan or the spirit of Christ in the political world would bring a new era in our history. It would banish the corruption that now exists and give us a pure, clean government. Officers competent to fill the positions and thus a better community, a better state, yea a better nation.

8. Let me say in a general way if we are to evangelize the world by winning men for Christ and make the world better for having lived in it, we must practice what we preach. Our lives are the best witnesses we can give for Christ. A testimony not backed by a righteous living is a hindrance rather than a help. Don't talk louder than you live. May we all by God's help carry the gospel into all our business or work, into the shop, into the field, into everything we do. All our work should be done in the name of Jesus.

9. Let us all practice the teachings for which the church of Christ stands. Let us put away the theoretical and begin as never before to act. The church teaches forgiveness and this too demands a practical place in our lives. How many are enemies because we are not willing to forgive and forget. It is so easy for us to talk of this, so easy for us to say yes we should but oh, what a struggle when we come to the application! How we remember unkind words or acts but alas! too often we forget all the kindnesses shown us by those whom we can not forgive. That forced galvanic smile of those whom we once loved overshadows all their kind deeds and words. We as Christian people need to give this spirit of forgiving others a larger place in our lives for in so doing we imitate him who said, "Father forgive them for they know not what they do." If we would be loyal to the church let us practice her teachings of service, love for our fellowman and the spirit of forgiveness.

10. There is much for which the church stands but space forbids their mention here. By God's help may we always do those things that will help others. May we come more and more to act in a manner indicating our consciousness of God's all-seeing eye. We owe it to the church if we would help her. We owe it to God. May God add his bless-

ing and help us to live daily the teachings of the church, then she shall be able to go forth in the glorious mission she was called to fill.

"True worth is in being, not seeming  
In doing each day that goes by,  
Some little good; not in the dreaming  
Of great things to do by and by.

C. I. SHOCK.

#### To Defend Her Doctrines

To state that our distinctive doctrine is the chief plea for our existence as a separate church organization, is to state a well known and generally accepted fact among our people. The subject of the article is "My duty to my church is to defend her doctrines."

I should say personally, therefore, and at the very outset that, I should not enlist myself as a defendant of the doctrines of our church if I were not absolutely certain that they bear the finger marks and a sanction of the Lord Jesus.

I believe that Christ taught a water baptism and such a one as we practice in the Brethren church, i. e. by triune immersion: that he instituted the Lord's Supper to be observed as we observe it: and that when he said, "If I then your Lord and Master have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet," he set forth a plain, simple teaching which he expected to be interpreted literally. I repeat: I believe Christ both practiced and taught these doctrines and handed them down to succeeding generations not as an end in themselves, but as holding a liberal place in a means to an end, which end is, the highest development of the individual in the Christian life. Hence, having such convictions, I regard it as a happy duty to defend the distinct doctrines of the church.

1. By instructing people from God's word about these things.
2. By preaching doctrine from the pulpit.
3. By distributing tracts and other literature that bears upon it.
4. By openly and fearlessly practicing the doctrines for which we stand.

WILLIAM BEACHLER.

#### Give to Her Support

Some times, the least gift one can give to his church is his money and yet there are some who think money is the only thing or power one can give that will support his church. It is my purpose however to briefly treat the subject of giving money to support my church.

The present financial needs of my church are very great. The College is compelled to move along with a very moderate endowment and as a result, but comparatively few men and women can be hired and these are compelled to do double the work they should be asked to do.

The Publishing House has not had the steady support of both Sunday schools and individuals that it should have. The Sun-